
On the Drawing Board
no. 74
DRAW ME for BIG MONEY
A CAREER IN CARTOONING
EARN
FAMOUS
"Anyone can Draw!"
1967

UNDER THE ARCH

by Bob Schoenfeld

A few things I might mention this month about this issue are... 1) For the last few issues I've been kinda talking back and forth with a few correspondents about having OTDB wrap-around as Voice of Comicdom used to be. Things kept falling through on this before, but as of last issue my printer raised his rates and I decided a change was in order. So, here we are: new printer, new format and new nonesense. 2) I'm afraid that I must announce that Johnny Chambers' Little Green Dinosaur is once again absent from this issue. Just why it is absent, I don't know, but there is a rumor going through St. Louis SF fandom that John is in Viet Nam! I really don't know myself--I haven't heard from John in some time...so I'd appreciate it if John is reading this that he drop me a note, or that someone who is in contact with him let me know what gives. 3) I have been forced, as of this issue, to make a slight change in our ad-policy. Henceforth: If we are possessed of several extra pages of text for one issue (such as this one), and several ads are due to be run, I must give preference to the text. Since we are limited to 12 pages at the most, something had to give. There was one page open this month, but I had two and a half pages of ads due to be run and was in no position to give the space to one and not the other...so I took it myself! (Democracy at work.) Therefore, my friends, in the future, no ads larger than ½page will be accepted except in special cases such as trades, and if we are heavy on text and an ad must be delayed, we won't hesitate to delay it. I do promise that an ad won't be delayed more than two months...but if it does come to the point where it would need a longer delay you may have either the money and ad back or you may simply have it run in the first issue room permits.

Speaking of my ad...it's for Gateway Con II and it appears on page 8. One thing that I neglected to say on the ad was that rates for the hotel run from $6.50 to $14.75 for a single and from $10.50 to $18.75 for a double. We hope you'll be there to meet the many fine fans we're expecting.

The damndest thing happend here the other day... Dave Esser popped up here in St. Louis! He was on his way to the Houston Con and decided to take a rest stop here in St. Louis from the long bus trip...so we shot the bull on comics, fandom and all kindsa fun stuff! Later, I understand, he dropped in at Mike Appell's over on the east side. Now, to make things even more interesting, I may be entertaining Bob Greene shortly too! Seems he's gonna try to stop over on his way to San Francisco... May tell you all about that next month. Meanwhile, if anyone else's finguring on doing any traveling around this neighborhood, the door's always open.

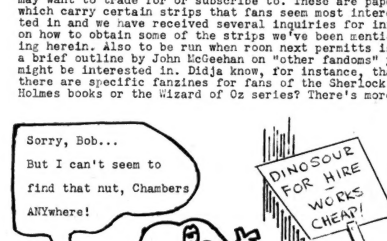
Something else about this issue is the fact that there is only one letter in the Academy Forum column... Dave's. I've no excuse this time...I have several letters on file in regard to the Academy and last month's column...but I didn't have enough room for more than a token column. Therefore, unless Don comes back with another three-pager, I will be running these same letters next month. In the meantime, I urge all potential letter writers to keep your letters short and sweet. I would like to be able to ad an extra page of strips, but cannot do this until I am assured that lack of room won't prohibit a sooth run of it.

I announced last month that we would definitely begin to have a regular zine review in this issue, but I'm afraid this has not been taken care of yet. I am in contact with several prospects, and I promise that those of you who have sent me zines will see them reviewed. I won't commit myself by saying that there will definitely be one next month, but it is very likely. In the meantime, we are keeping a grip on Bill Spicer and he is back this month with another of his fine reviews.

As for Gosh Wew, it is, as I said last month, in the very final stages of production. The last few articles are at the printer now and I expect them back shortly. Sooo...just as soon as they arrive, I will begin the job of collating the thing and we will have it to you just a few days thereafter. I know it's been a darn long wait...and no one regrets this more than I, but I do feel you will be pleased with the results, and yes, even surprised. We are actually going to try to make Gosh a quarterly thing.....(the pause is to permit your recovery) but before you faint, read our editorial in #1 for a better explanation.

Here is something I ought to explain, too, about OTDB: About these editorials I write every month, they are actually composed at the typewriter. That should account for the "ramblingness" of this rambling-editorial. For some reason, fannish editorials have a reputation for being "rambling", and I didn't see any reason to buck the system. Anyway, it's faster and more fun this way...you keep remembering things you wanted to say in a paragraph some time back.

Up and coming in future issues of OTDB we have covers by Alan Hutchinson, Earl Blair (perhaps the best piece this fan has yet drawn), Landon Chesney and we have promises of stuff-to-come from Buddy Saunders and Dick Memorich. Plus we have spot illoes by Dubay, Foss, Manley, Hutchinson, Keller and Doug Potter to use. In the way of text features we will be offering you an Index to several specific out-of-town newspapers you may want to trade for or subscribe to. These are papers which carry certain strips that fans seem most interested in and we have received several inquiries for info on how to obtain some of the strips we've been mentioning herein. Also to be run when roon next permitts is a brief outline by John McGeehan on "other fandoms" you might be interested in. Didja know, for instance, that there are specific fanzines for fans of the Sherlock Holmes books or the Wizard of Oz series? There's more.



On The Drawing Board--formerly The Comic Reader--Volume 2, Number 14, whole Number 61, June 1967. The official newsletter of The Academy of Comic Art Fans and Collectors. (Membership: $2 to David Kaler, Box 392, Cooper's Station, NY, NY. 10003.) Published monthly by the Gateway Comic Art Fan Club; editor: Robert Schoenfeld, 9516 Minerva, St. Louis, Mo. 63114. Phone: 314, 429, 0490.

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Overseas: 50¢ an ish; 40¢ an ish to Academy members.

News should be sent to David Kaler for verification.
News credits for this issue go to Bruce Williams, Mark Hanerfeld and Andy Yanchus...not to mention those persons whose names are in Late Notes & Notices.
Art credits for this issue go to Rich Buckler, page 3; Gordon Bess, page 5; Jim Gardner, page 6; Alan Hutchinson, page 7; Ken Keller, page 10; Hutchinson, page 11; and Len Wein for page 12. Note: illoes on page 7 and 11 are reprinted from Gremlin #1. Issue 2 will so be out and costs 40¢ to Alan Hutchinson, 4051 60th Way No., St. Petersburg, Fla.

advertising rates are $3 per quarter page or $5.50 for a half page...no more except thru pre-arranged deals.

The deadline for next issue: July 1st.

Back issues: 7,8,10-13 at 25¢@; 30¢@ sent flat--orders of five or more go flat at 25¢@...copies of TCR 42 & 46 may be had at 50¢@ sent flat. No copies of OTDB #9 left.



WHAT'S NEWS

DAVE KALER

FANS-GONE-PRO!

Congratulations go out from the staff of this publication to the latest batch of fans-gone-pro! Mike Fredrich has sold a Robin story to National and it will appear shortly. Jeff Jones whose work has appeared often in Fantasy Illustrated has made his professional debut in the latest issue of Creepy (#16) with the 2nd tale of Thane the Barbarian. And a few issues back a plot idea of Buddy Saunders' was expanded into a full story by Archie Goodwin for Eerie #8.

THE PACKAGE DEALS FROM KING

Although the new sales system adopted by King has not met with enthusiasm from the fans, the system is working as King soon plans to expand the number of titles each month to at least 9. This will put three funny titles, three or more adventure titles and a special showcase type book out each month. Many fans seem still confused by the change over. For those who have wondered, both the humor and adventure titles did appear some weeks back in the first of the backaged batches. If you have yet to locate a dealer for these packs, we recomend you either contact another fan in your area or subscribe.-Ed.

The major books such as Flash Gordon and Mandrake will be filled with reprint material as well as new adventures. Number 6 or 7 of Flash Gordon will have the MacRaboy tale of "The Living Forest" to fill out the book with a cover by Austin Briggs. Unfortunately, many panels have been cut out of this story to make it fit one issue.

ROBOTS AT NATIONAL

With a buzz of metallic wings, robot insects once again attack the tiny titan as the Bug-Eyed Bandit returns to threaten the Atom in issue 33.

Even Robby Reed's ever changing powers prove useless as Whirrr, the strangest metallic machine ever created fights off their attempts to stop it in House of Mystery 170.

There's a double-feature playing for the Metal Men that month: Tina goes all out to destroy herself in order to defeat evil duplicates of her teammates in MM 28. And the whole metal-crew shows up at a Robot exposition in Gotham City where they match their metallic wits with the cunning of Batman to defeat a city full of berserk Robots in Brave and Bold 74.

WEIRD ONES FROM DC

The world doesn't want that boy to point his fingers at anyone--the results could lead to the destruction of the world in a tale called "ABD--to Disaster!" in Tales of the Unexpected 103. The Green Glop also appears in that issue to influence the life of "The Unlucky Mr. Lucky!"

In the pages of Strage Adventures 205 a new creation is born. Out of the unknown world of death comes Deadman in search of the one responsible for his death. Fans will be able to follow his adventures each issue as this unique hero (?) battles other dangers which interrupt his earthly quest. And with Bob Haney and Carmine Infantino on the story, it should be worth your while to check into it.

HEROICS FROM CHARLTON

Continuing in their amazing renaissance, Charlton debuts Hercules in his own mag in September featuring new tales of his amazing adventures in the world of mythology.

Meanwhile, Steve Ditko takes the Blue Beetle on the trail of Dan Garrett to foreign shores only to discover "The Men Of the Mask!" In that same issue, the Question faces the man hired to kill him. Steve Skeates wrote the scripts for both of these stories in issue 4.

"New" is the key-word for Thunderbolt #60 as a new logo, writer and second feature appear. Boyette teams up his art on our mental-master with the script of Sergus O'Shaunessy to take T-Bolt into the hideaways of Chinatown and into the aim of the Dragon's fire gun. The Sentinels take a temporary suspension from T-Bolt's back seat spot and the Prankster moves in. His story concerns a future world that is ruled by a tyrant. O'Shaunessy created this character to plague the tyrant with one big prank each issue and each one is a dilly.

Judomaster 97 finds the athletic ace returning to his alma mater to help his old boxing coach in a tale called "This One's For Pop!" Meanwhile, Sarge Steel is confused trying to figure out if the widow is dead or alive in the conclusion to the "Widow's Revenge!"

Captain Atom finds his hands full of action in issue 89 when the Ghost tries to steal a strage satellite Capt. Atom has brought to earth. But this time the Ghost has some competition in the form of "13" a magical foe who wants the satellite too. Not to be overshadowed (pun intended), Nightshade faces the return of Jewelee when both girls attend the "Masque of the Kirrors" in that same issue.

In Peacemaker 5 our hero dives into the depths of "The Fire World" to face the Lavamen. The Fightin' Five wind up their civilian action against the "Card Carrier" in that issue as well.

EERIE EPISODES FROM ACG

After a vacation in July, the ACG titles return with new material in August. Forbidden Worlds 146 leads off with a superstition tale "That's For The Birds!" with art by Sal Trapani.

Adventures Into The Unknown 175 leads you into "The Mirror Into The Past!" Then, shortly after, Unknown Worlds 58 shows us what Ed Ashe can do with "The Thing In The Dungeon!"

SUPER HEROICS FROM NATIONAL

His own secret identity proves an obsticle to overcome when Hawkman is threatened by the Falcon in issue 22.

Mysteries pile up as Batman seeks to discover a pattern which will solve "The 7 Wonder Crimes of Gotham City!" in Detective 368. The Elongated Man welcomes the Atom to his strip in that same issue.

J'onn J'onzz finds that he must seek out and destroy himself in House of Mystery 170.

DC BATTLEFIELDS

Easy Company's new recruit was determined to see his flag wave--even if it was "Over His Dead Body!" in Our Army At War 185.

Death penetrates the the thick, shielding walls of the Haunted Tank in G.I.Combat 126.

High in the air of foreign territory, two oposing aces team up to defeat a common enemy in Star Spangled War Stories 135.

MORE NEWS FROM KING

All set for issues 8-10 of Flash Gordon is the Alex Raymond epic of "The Tournament of Mongo." This tale will, however, be reprinted from the Italian reprint book just as it appeared over there. Therefore, if the Italians have deleted any panels, King cannot be blamed. /It should be noted that these Italian Flash Gordon reprints are not actual reprints of Raymond's work. What they are are re-inked xerox-type copies. This is probably due to the fact that the originals (which the Italians used) were in color and had to be run through an opaque projector in order to screen out colors which would normally would print black. Furthermore, it is unfortunate that the person who has re-inked these strips has not had the talent that Raymond had and the effect is obvious to anyone who has studied Raymond's art. Furthermore, these are the same books many dealers are selling at high prices.--Ed./

Such strips as Secret Agent X-9, Prince Valiant, Rip Kirby, Brick Bradford and Tim Tyler are being considered to join the line of titles as these strips are the ones primarily reprinted in foreign countries. If they don't appear in their own, regular books, they may be used in the special Showcase-type book along with some humor material such as Krazy Kat (!), Polly and Her Pals and many others. /In regard to the reprinting of the adventure strips listed above, one finds that those strips which were printed in black & white in this country were reprinted just as the artist originally drew them--that is, they have not been reinked. In this group would be X-9 with the possible exception of the Sunday pages which I'm not familiar with), Rip Kirby, Brick Bradford, and Tim Tyler (here again I'm not familiar with the Sunday pages). However, there seems to be some dissent among collectors as to whether or not the foreign Prince Valliant editions have been re-inked or not. I know that some of you reading this may have some information on this, so please drop us a line (eg, Bill Harris!)-Ed./

D. C. HUMOR

A cry for "Summer H-E-L-L-L-P!" rings out when the teens of Benedict Arnold High decide to take on summer jobs in Bob Hope 107.

When "Spike Discovers His Trigger Finger!" the whole neighborhood runs for cover in Sugar and Spike 73.

An un-monster maker invades the world of Stanley and his monster in the Fox and Crow 106.

Scooter and his crowd invade the fairy tale world when "A Frog Named Boris" crosses their paths in #9.

BACK TRACKING A BIT

In issue #12 of OTDB several items were mentioned in my column which were unsatisfactorily explained. I'd like to mention them again here:

The Whammo people are a producer of toys and games for children--they are responsible for many of our toys-gone-fads such as the hula-hoop. Anyway, they have been interested in entering the comics magazine market for over a year now and they intend to publish a large mag filled with heroes, western, war and educational materials to be sold in toy stores and the like around the country. Such pros as Wally Wood, Otto Binder and others have already turned out work for them. The publication will bear the code seal, and I will try to have some information on the whens, wheres and hows we may expect it by next month.

Many of the items I mention in my column are there because I have found them here in my area, and felt them to be worth mentioning. It is true, however, that just about everything turns up in New York and that many things turn up there alone. Therefore, if something I mention has not appeared in your neighborhood after a reasonable length of time (don't write me as soon as you read about it, naturally) drop me a line and I'll try my best to find a copy for you. I can usually come up with copies of the coloring books, foreign publications and hard bound books--though I am unable to do so for paperbacks, I'm afraid.

Also mentioned in issue 12 was a Donald Duck book Called "The Lost Mesa Ranch". I mentioned the book because it contained material that reminded me greatly of the hard-backs issued by DC Heath in the 1940's. This new book comes from the Whitman company and features all of the old, loveable Disney gang in some fun western adventures. There are full page illoes in monotone and double page illoes in full color that make the pub one worth obtaining to any Disney fan. Unfortunately, the book contains no identifying number and I can only suggest that interested parties look around. It is sold under the title of "Tween age Book" at 69¢ in many dime and drug stores.

NATIONAL'S TEAM TALES

The Challengers find it a strain to "Live Until Tomorrow" when they battle Neutro with his atom-smashing powers in issue 58.

Our "ever in there" Blackhawks are labeled as assassins when they allow the man they are guarding to die in issue 237.

Striking out across the universe, the Unkillables launch their attack on our Legion of Super Heroes in Adventure 351.

Group action is again in the spotlite for Green Lantern as he leads his comrades in a "Battle For Survival" in GL 56.

FOREIGN COMICS IN THE NEWS

While Australia is no longer publishing original comics, one item that appears is worth mentioning: The Superman Super Library, a pocket size item, features tales of Supe from the late 40's. Wayne Boring and Winslow Mortimer artabounds in these items.

In France, Asterix continues to be the rage with other companies creating other strips to compete with it. Furthermore, company after company is picking up the Asterix characters for use on premiums offered to the public. Figurines, mini-comics, and portraits not unlike our bubble gum cards abound. /See my Late Ns & Ns for more info on Asterix--and even a picture! *Gasp*-Ed./

Germany is just now receiving the Batman TV show and the papers there are filled with articles on our daring duo. Furthermore, Batman has joined the Superman comic book with reprints of some early World's Finest adventures. Maybe we could put a tariff on America's comic book culture going outside our borders--pick up a little extra funds to pay for our war in Viet Land.

In Italy, the fifth and sixth issues of Batman Magazine contained the illustrated life stories of Adam West and Burt Ward done in comic strip format. And in #5, the history of the Batmobile was gone into as a special feature.

But all Italians are not Bat-fans--Linus for March features many pages of Peanuts and Krazy Kat for the adult readers. Younger Italians have been following two American features now appearing in Il Monello: the Dell series of Laurel and Hardy stories and the Tippy Teen series from Tower are running there.

South of the border, fans have their choice of several reprint books and original material. Two issues of a satire comic for adults featuring an ugly witch have played havoc with the Bat craze in Mexico. In #75 of Drujerias, the witch designed her own "Badman" costume and set out to fight crime. In #76 she visits the TV studio and meets Batman in person. The result is Batman's drinking of a secret potion which turns him into a super-powered idiot who is able to be stopped by a ten-ton truck only--and yes, one does stop him.

Other Mexican items of intrest are El Intocable, a Tarzan imitator which is notable for a high-quality story and art. Anibal is the title of a book concerning the science fiction adventures of a cyborg /whazzat, Dave?-Ed./ equiped with all sorts of fantastic weapons. The art goes from terrific to terrible all in one issue, but if you're interested in foreign pubs...

English fans are receiving some interesting material in the form of a pocket size version of newspaper strip reprints being put out by World Adventure Library. Flash Gordon, Mandrake, the Phantom and Tarzan are appearing in this form, but due to contract requirements, this book cannot be mailed out to subscribers in the US. Interested fans will have to procure their copies from English fans.

COMICS IN TELEVISION

Whether or not it will be worth your while to rise early on Saturday mornings this fall is still debatable for ABC has yet to release their lineup of cartoon features. But one this is sure: this stuff will be going way into the afternoon. I suspect that the Fantastic 4 and Spiderman will be placed to compete with the Superman and Aquaman shows on CBS.

Some fans may be interested in the look-behind-the-scenes humor to be found in a new comedy series called "He and She." It concerns a cartoonist and his wife--the former who has created a super hero named Jetman.

I guess everybody knows by now that Batman goes to Thursday night this fall and brings along Yvonne Craig as Batgirl to make it interesting.

Robert Short (author of "The Gospel According to Peanuts") and Charles Shulz appear on a special program produced by one of the educational TV channels. Just when and on what channels I'll try to find out by next issue, but I'd suggest you check your local educational listings in the meantime.

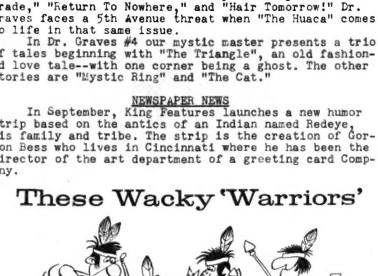
CHARLTON CHILLERS

The Ghostly keeper of the Haunted House regales us with three terror tales in Ghostly Tales 63: "Fair Trade," "Return To Nowhere," and "Hair Tomorrow!" Dr. Graves faces a 5th Avenue threat when "The Huaca" comes to life in that same issue.

In Dr. Graves #4 our mystic master presents a trio of tales beginning with "The Triangle", an old fashioned love tale--with one corner being a ghost. The other stories are "Mystic Ring" and "The Cat."

NEWSPAPER NEWS

In September, King Features launches a new humor strip based on the antics of an Indian named Redeye, his family and tribe. The strip is the creation of Gordon Bess who lives in Cincinnati where he has been the director of the art department of a greeting card Company.

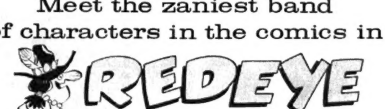






GORDON BESS

Meet the zaniest band
of characters in the comics in



The Editorial Board Syndicate has gone out on a limb with their latest offering to papers about the country: For the first time, a strip is being offered which features an educated, athletic Negro as the hero. The only throwback to characterization is the setting: the strip takes place in Africa and is called "Julian of the Jungle." It is in release right now and can be found in quarter-page Sunday sections or as a once-a-week feature in black and white. /But where can it be found, Dave? And is there any chance of getting some promotional samples as per Redeye?-Ed./ The creator of the strip is Fred Toran who lives in St. Louis /My Gawd!! St. Louis' FIRST comic strip artist!-Ed./ He created the strip because of his intrest in African lore and in an attempt to give negro boys an adventure strip about a hero of their own race.

The Newspaper Women's Club and the National Cartoonists Society have opened a shop which deals exclusively in the sales of original cartoon material to interested persons. It is called the Cartoon Market Place and is located on the 9th floor of the World Press Center, 54 West 40 St; NYCity 10018. A permanent display is set up there and interested fans should write letters of inquiry about their favorite strips and the prices.

Alley Oop will come to the stage of a Broadway theatre soon, perhaps later this year or early next year. However, the musical may not revolve around the antics of our caveman hero for the producer plans to make it a chronical of the rise of man from caves to our present era.

MAGAZINES TO LOOK FOR

Larry Ivie's "Monsters and Heroes" is worth a looksee for fans of movies, serials, comics, etc. This fan has produced a slick magazine combining the intrests of many fans into one publication. Articles are about Tarzan, Frankenstein, comic heros that made it as serials and a strip done by Ivie himself. The cost is 35¢ at most newsstands.

Calvin Beck's latest issue of Castle of Frankenstein has a two page spread on Jim Steranko which will be of intrest to fans of Marvel's Tales of Shield series. Also of possible intrest to fans is a token page on comics fandom (with reviews of a few comic fanzines) and a page on Wally Wood's Witzend. The rest of the ish is devoted to movie monsterdom and costs 40¢.

PAPERBACKS

Mad has released a new reprint book: The questionable Mad--Signet, D3158 for 50¢. Comic fans would possibly like the section of cartoon characters acting their age.

While not on comics per se', Dolphin Boy by Roy Meyers makes interesting reading for fans of the Submariner or Aquaman. This English novelist has developed a totally new character living in the whorld's oceans and finally coming into contact with the world of humans. It's a Tarzan of the deep sea. Try Ballentine, U6100, for 75¢.

Late Notes & Notices

From Bill Spicer comes a most interesting article from the Los Angeles Times of May 26 on Dennis The Menace and his creator Hank Ketcham. The article consists primarily of quotes concerning the strip--about families, kids, home, etc. As we mentioned last month, Ketcham is in the talk stage of a possible TV show for Dennis with the sponsorship of Sears Roebuck. It is interesting to note through this article that the summer edition of their catalog contains 50 Dennis cartoons and even more are due to appear in the Christmas catalog. Ketcham uses the Sears catalog for his "morgue" file--it contains pictures of just about anything he'd ever need to draw for Dennis.

From Bruce Williams comes word that Science Magazine for March 10th carried an article entitled "Funnies On Capital Hill" by D.S.Greenberg. 'fraid that's all I know about it.

Associated Press recently released an article on comics in France in papers about the country. From John McGeehan and Pat Draine come similar articles (differing only in a little editing.) A display of american comic art was put on in the Louvre (sic) by the Museum des Arts Decoratifs and is scheduled to run through June 12. The article doesn't say when it began, however it is all part of a conspiracy on the part of the French Society of Research in Illustrated Literature to "inform the French public on American comic strip concepts." The article goes on to say that this "exposition" (as the Europeans refer to it) is scheduled to go to Switzerland, Belgium, the Netherlands and Italy. Furthermore, negotiations are in progress to bring it to New York by the summer of 1968.



Here's
a tip
right from
the
horse's
mouth...

You'll get
a big kick
out of
REDEYE

Another one of many articles now appearing on the French character "Asterix" has appeared in The Lowell Sun of W. Chelmsford, Mass. as submitted by Pat Draine. This particular article actually says nothing that I've not already printed on the character, but this one did run a photograph with it. The photo as it was printed in the newspaper was not too awfully sharp--but I am printing it here (below) in hopes that even barring our reduction it will come out ok. Pat also mentions that this particular article appeared just prior to a similar article in TIME. Does anyone happen to know the date on the TIME article--Pat?



Cartoon Character A Hero

One out of five Frenchmen affectionately follow the adventures of "Asterix the Gaul," by far the most popular cartoon character ever in France. The 27-year-old comic strip figure goes through adventure after adventure in the time of the Roman's conquest of Western Europe and mythically reverses history by giving those Romans a very hard time by outwitting and outfighting them.

Pogo



From Canadian fan Leopold Beaudet comes an article from the Montreal Star for a date which I do not have. This is on Walt Kelly, creator of Pogo. The article points out that Kelly, while on the way home to NY, detoured in his flight to take in Expo '67. After seeing it, he decided he'd like to work it into his strip in some way, and the results were seen in some 605 papers on five continents. The Pogo strips for the first of May and thereabouts carried the story of how P.T.Bridgeport decided to make a "fayrie land" out of the swamp and call it Expose '67. The rest of the article concerned Walt and his political feelings.

From John McGeehan comes an article from the LA Times of May 25 concerning Charles Schulz being honored by California governor Reagan. Schulz presented Reagan with an original daily strip framed--and in turn Reagan proclaimed the day "Charles Schulz Day".







Freedom is a strong desire. So the heavy weights are swiftly broken away from your body, revealing scars, nakedness...



AND **THEN**...confusion!!



The sudden shift is so drastic that the mind is completely shocked. It buffets inside the skull and helplessness sends tears down the high cheekbones that are yours. Security has pushed you from her breast. As the tears dry, thinking is set in motion. The peace you seek is the result of knowledge, knowledge that none other than Experience can provide.

: but your mind's depths sense help on its way in the form of a woman, Sunshine!



Bill Spicer

The Rocket's Blast Special #7, 1967: "The End of an Era" by William Parente. Available for 75¢ from the SFCA c/o Gordon Love, 9875 SW 212 St; Miami, Fla. 33157. 12 pgs (including covers), offset throughout, 4 color covers.

"The End of an Era" is the most over-priced fan publication I've yet to encounter in fandom. At 75¢ for 12 pages, it's priced well out of proportion to what it delivers in both quantity of material and in quality of text. Two of the 12 pages consist of SFCA house ads, leaving only 10 of actual reading matter. The article itself runs 8 pages of reduced type, prepared in a hard-to-read, wide, across-the-page lines.

The magazine's sole redeeming factor is John Pantucchio's 4 color front cover, which he drew and apparently did the overlays for. It's easily one of the best color jobs I've seen on a fan publication. He seems to know what he's doing. The back cover by Buddy Saunders is not too effective; he's done better color for better drawings elsewhere. Neither cover illustration has any particular connection to the contents of the article.

"The End of an Era" refers to the EC comics. It is probably the worst-written article I've ever read. The writing is so terrible that instead of trying to "review" it, I'm simply going to quote from it and let you judge for yourself. If the quotes that follow don't seem to make sense to you out of context, let me tell you that they don't make any sense in context either. What follows are a few typical sentences and paragraphs taken at random from the narative; all quotes are verbatim, including the spelling errors:

oOo oOo oOo

"The comicade lineup was becoming an intellectual insult rather than experience since companies had projected a panorama of shallow insight, so signifigant of noteriety, onto the screen of comic book cinema."

oOo oOo oOo

"EC felt this to be an opportune moment to rebel and readjust to the development of an "adult" line of comics, intelligently devised, yet still orientated to satisfy the fantasy demands of juvensecense. With compass in hand they embarked upon an adventure that blazed across the wilderness of comicville for five great years, burning the name of EC into legend."

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"Harvey Kurtzman, using his inventive style as a blanket to cover the possibility of introduction had stopped in one morning to sugar the coffee of the EC cup with the teaspoon of his humor. The visit became a stay that eventually resulted in an editorialship of two new titles. The editors felt since Crime Suspense having rainbowed from....Horror into such a pot of gold, the spell was strong enough to resist the tug of chance. Haunt of Fear was turned over to the little "detective of detail," as he was later known, and although Haunt of Fear was re-numbered and continued as a featured title, what should have been an old issue #18 became the infant issue of Two Fisted Tales."

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"Those five were al Feldstein who went on to become managing editor of all the new titles, Johnny Craig who absorbed the greater portion of the artistic evolution, Graham Ingels a featured brush man in the passe' Gun-Fighter, Jack Kamen and Wallace Wood."

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A nefarious magician who sprinkled his horror sorcery with a humor that often insinuated satire, Davis tickled even the most grotesque with a feather of pleasent absurdity that did by the very wit of his method, fence within the boundary of good taste., even a plot that bubbled in the sauce of a grusome gravy. His lugubrious travestry was the subtly salted product of his desire to neutralize the viewers shock and Jack, the satanous satirist quickly became a welcome step up the long flight to the top."

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"Classical epilogues acclaimed throughout the country by father and son alike, exampled in "...So Shall Ye Reap," "In Gratitude" and "Blood Brothers" printed in Shock Suspense #10, 11 and 13, were literary pyramids that towered over a vast dessert of mass discretion and fundamental subterfuge. It appeared the first, faint snowfall of fame had blown the flake of EC into a blizzard."

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"While the satirical MAD was re-making comic book burlesque, Graham Ingels the "Ghastly" one was having a halloween with his grissly tales from the bubbling potpourri of the horror caldrons. Besides their names, many of the EC artists signatured their pictorial transcripts with fastidiuos, diagnostic particles that overlooked the realm of addicted norm. Ingels was possibly the formost of any in his masterful transmutation of natural perspective into the insidious validity of the grotesque. The really amazing quality of the bizzare' approach he employed to successfully induce a connected value between the completely unrelated and the veritable. His mode was certain worthy of his pseudonym, "Ghastly."

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"Severin and Elder, the 'dynamic duo' of the pen and pencil set, has brought both war magazines a digestive authenticity no free form media had witnessed in ten years and while editing had forced Feldstein to switch from india ink to typewriter ribbon, the science-fic ticker-tapes were far from in trouble with grey-flannel boys like Williamson and Orlando rocketing the stock."

oOo oOo

"The EC child itself, having been successfully delivered was then raised through various environmental stages of sagacity and intense proficiency."

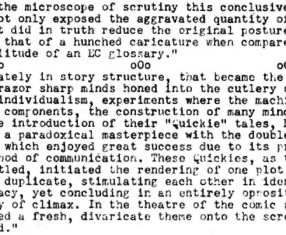
oOo oOo oOo

"Under the microscope of scrutiny this conclusive anthology not only exposed the aggravated quantity of framework but did in truth reduce the original posture of the book to that of a hunched caricature when compared to the amplitude of an EC glossary."

oOo oOo oOo

"alternately in story structure, that became the product of razor sharp minds honed into the cutlery of audacious individualism, experiments where the machinery of many components, the construction of many minds. with the introduction of their "quickie" tales, EC developed a paradoxical masterpiece with the double twist endings which enjoyed great success due to its provoking method of communication. These Quickies, as they were titled, initiated the rendering of one plot followed by a duplicate, stimulating each other in identical donspiracy, yet concluding in an entirely opposite possibility of climax. In the theatre of the comic goer it projected a fresh, divaricate theme onto the screen of his mind."

End of review.





GATEWAY CON II

WHERE:

The Con will be held at St. Louis' Gateway Hotel at the corner of 9th and Washington streets in the heart of downtown St.Louis. The site is quickly accessible by all the major bus lines and is quite close to our out-of-town bus depot as well.

WHY:

The Con is to be informal with a primary purpose to meet and get to know you--our fellow fans. Programs will feature round table discussions, films and serials (including the Flash Gordon serial), buying and selling of most anything and general shooting the bull! A large display of original artwork will be on display and several pieces will be given away as a door prize. We believe that everyone--young or old--who attends the con is important and everyone will be free to participate.
Several dealers will be present at the Con and we think in general that you will have a wonderful time.

WHEN:

The Con will take place during the weekend of August 4th through 6th. It will officially begin at noon Friday, but actual programing will begin just after dinner to allow all the guests to arrive. The Con will end at noon or shortly after on Sunday, though it won't be necessary for guests to leave that early if they prefer to remain longer. A printed program-souevenir booklet will be given out with a complete schedule included.

HOW:

The cost for the three-day con is only $2.50. However, the hotel is asking that a minimum attendance of room reservations be established in advance. Therefore, we must ask that you please try to have your room reserved and your $2.50 ticket bought before July 15th. This does not mean you cannot attend after that date, but simply that we ask you try your best to have the money in as soon as possible. Send to: Robert Schoenfeld, 9516 Minerva, St.Louis, Mo. 63114. Ticket and room reservation slips will be sent upon receipt of $2.50.

DO IT NOW

ACADEMY FORUM

OTDB urges all fans with an intrest in fandom and The Academy to participate in this column by submitting your comments on the letters appearing here, or on projects you really feel are worth the undertaking.

from the Exec-Sec...

David Kaler
Box 392
Cooper Station
NY, NY. 10003

The following consists of my reply to Don Thompson's letter in OTDB 13--he has made it necessary for me to explain the way the Academy has been run under me and I find that I must defend myself before the readers.

Sometime in the latter part of 1965 I was elected to the Executive Board of the Academy by the then-supporting members. I was to serve a two year term along with 24 other fans while 25 others were elected to one-year terms. Since Don requested a list, it follows:

Richard Kyle	Ed Aprill	David Kaler
Paul Koslander	Larry Lattanzi	Rick Durrell
Steve Ferrin	D. Rothermich	Dan Cassidy
Russ Manning	H. Rogofsky	Dick Memorich
Ross Kight	Andy Fraknoi	Don Thompson
Bill Placzek	Don Foote	Tom McGeehan
Jim Rossow	Claude Held	Lee Whittlesey
Keith Greene	Bill Thailing	Geo. Pacinda
Ray Miller	Buddy Saunders	Paul Gambaccini
John Ryan	Tom Fagan	Ken Mitchell
Sol Davidson	Alex Almarez	L.L. Simpson
Ed Lahman	Bill Spicer	Geo. Martin
Jerry Bails	Steve Kelez	Ronn Foss
John McGeehan	Roy Thomas	Marc Nadel
Glen Johnson	Dick Pryor	Rick Weingroff
Gordon Love	Howard Keltner	Jeremy Barry

At the start of 1966, Paul Gambaccini was trying to make a go of the Academy. Things got very rough and all he succeeded in doing was to publish the Board-only bulletin which brought up discussions on projects which were actually the pet-projects of the member submitting the idea. When Paul found the going getting too rough, he made an honest attempt to find someone to take over.

He was in contact with many supporting members regarding this situation and asked several persons. Don Thompson turned him down because he was in the process of moving; Jerry Bails was busy with other matters of a personal nature and when I accepted, I really did not know fully what I was bargaining for.

When I received the rolls for the Academy and the treasury (which totaled $636.52 at the time), I found that none of the board members had renewed their memberships for 1966 and I didn't want to get involved with entering new members until I felt I could offer them something substantial for their money.

As I found my hands full with activity on the annual Academy Convention, I went ahead with this affair as it was established by the Academy. Yet Don now says that I hurt the Academy by so doing, and that I should have worked with the other group--however, what he does not say is that only one board member was supporting the other Con, Roy Thomas. But that was not the end result of my con as I gave everyone attending a good time. And that is hardly what happened at the other con. The younger fans were ignored on the program in order to satisfy the intrests of the older fans, many of whom were interested in EC material only. One afternoon was spent in making Leonard Darvin of the CCA out as some type of McCarthy (though all reports indicate that he came out ahead in the end by admitting his own and the code's mistakes.) Many fans complained to me that they had been mislead by the ads used by this other group into believing they were attending an Academy con. A prominent dealer from Canada mentioned that he has been unable to sell comics at the affair because the majority of the fans in attendance were interested only in science fiction materials.

So I decided to go ahead with my con in August. There were programs for all segments of fandom. Stan Lee spoke in a special program, there was a meeting with the Marvel Bullpen and the men at National who worked on Batman. There was a display of foreign comics, the buying and selling period and a costume party in which everyone who made a costume took home a prize.

When the Con was over, it had made some $40 which I added to the treasury bringing it to a total of some $676.52. Due to the success of the con, we did not have to auction off anything to cover the extra expenses--plus all donated material was given away to the fans at no expense to the Academy.

Just as I thought I could really begin to work on improving the Academy, Merrill Rothermich, publisher of The Comic Reader--the Academy magazine, began to have problems with his printer. On top of that, he was drafted and emergency measures had to be taken to preserve the Academy voice. I borrowed some money from the treasury to pay some of the printing bills until I realized that if someone found out, they would think I was stealing. So I returned the money that I had borrowed with funds I had made from writing and I began to pay the extra costs myself. At the present time I find that I have paid out several hundred dollars from my own pocket to keep this zine in publication in a manner I fell necessary and to get it up to the point where the circulation runs into some 400 copies a month.

Don Thompson would condemn me for this practice, but I feel that there would have been far wider repercussions if the mag had died. I would never of heard the end of it and the Academy would be without a sounding board.

In December of 1966, I had a letter printed in OTDB which announced several new ideas for the Academy and the finishing of some left undone. I began to solicit for new members. The Con Booklets which I promised to give to new members have been sent out and work has progressed admirably on a new fan magazine combining work done by pros and fans. This has been delayed, but Don would have it never come into existance because he feels it is not needed. Yet who is better able to write about the comics world than the pros who daily work in that field? And why shouldn't their work be needed in recording the story behind the work of the Golden Age and our present age of comics?

Members were promised a discount on subs to OTDB and this they have received, even though we are selling them at a loss and cannot raise the price until the present ad campaign is over. They will receive a discount to admission to the Academy Con for this year and will be listed in the Who's Who which will be printed for the first time in two years. Furthermore, all members will receive a free copy of the Who's Who when it is completed.

Shortly thereafter the time came when the Alley Awards had to be set up. I met with several local fans and spoke to others over the phone and through the mail to set up a ballot which would be comprehensive and fair to all facets of the comic world and fan activity.

The first section was set up so that only those books containing similar material would compete fairly against each other. There had never been a ballot which allowed books with two or more regular strips to compete against each other. The humor award had always been won by some funny super hero comic while the good funny animal or teen humor books suffered. Even a totally new title was allowed to compete against reprint material because of the price alone.

As it stands now, all types of books are represented with the exception of love, movie and horror magazines such as Warren produces. The latter are fine books, but are almost completely without competition on the market and it is simply not fair to place them with the books which must meet certain minimum standards--for even the Dell and Gold Key books have a code which in many cases is more strict than the Comics Code. The Warren books would undoubtedly win out over the work done by ACG, Charlton and other companies producing similar books.

The second section of the Awards is basically the same except for the addition of a category to give some credit to the small features which are constantly good and go unhearalded each year. Another category was added to give honor to some great work done by pros of the past. These two items on the ballot were meant to be there and must remain if feel if fandom is going to mean anything to pros at all.

The third section fills all the requirements of previous balloting and now allows all types of comic groups and personalities to win out. Yet other fans seem to feel that the super heroes who are also supporting characters (eg, the Thing) should be allowed to compete with a normal supporting character (eg, Jonah Jameson.) Previous elections have shown conclusively that super heroes have a tendancy to win out in every category where they are in competition with normal characters. Furthermore, The Thing is a star character in the FF and many stories have revolved around him alone. Such heroes as Tiger or Nightshade belong in a specific group set asside for the super/costumed hero characters while the Inhumans and Legion of Superheroes belong in the Super hero section. /I believe what Dave is trying to say by this last phrase is that characters like Batman, Nightshade or Tiger who do wear costumes but have no "super" abilities should not be placed competitively with other costumed characters who, like The Flash, Spiderman or Captain Atom have a para-normal power. The word "super" from "super/costumed hero" is misleading and should be droped.-Ed./ (I do admit that when the nominating ballots went out, these areas of the ballot were confusing over the word "costume". I should have used uniform in one section of the ballot. However it was understood by many and the correct votes came in regardless.) /It afraid, Dave, that I do not understand what distinction will be made by use of "uniform" over "costume". Furthermore, I do not see what relationship this bears to the discussion of supporting characters.-Ed./

The newspaper strip section was heralded by many as a step in the right direction, but some fans did say that problems arose because their papers did not carry many of the strips nominated, or because they are only interested in comic books. I feel, and I know that many strip collectors in fandom will back me up, that it is about time some note was taken by we supposedly serious fans of that medium from which comics originally came. More and more fans are collecting newspaper strips today and there are many who have been doing it for years. It has been brought up that the pros themselves honor their peers in the field of newspaper strips through the Rueben Award of the NCS...but what these fans are forgetting it that to be eigible for the Rueben, one must belong to the NCS (and no, being an artist or writer professionally is not enough in itself to make one a member.) Many are the pros who at one time were involved in newspaper strips or are so involved presently who do not belong, and I feel that it is foolish for these persons to be ignored.

I do admit, also, that the fanzine section is most confusing and I have come to believe that its original form is the best. However, there is one fault in this original form: when fanzines are rated, the over-all product produced for that year should be judged, rather than the specific issues. In the past you might find SSC #7 being pitted against SSC #8 and so on down the line. I feel that it should be SSC 7-10 (assuming 7-10 were the issues that appeared for that year) against, say, FI 4-7 (and 4-7 would, of course, be the issues of that zine appearing in one year.) There will be bad and good issues of all zines. Other than this, I feel that the fanzine section is as accurate as possible.



Don Thompson has also said that I entered another category into the ballot after the board nominations were in. This is true. However, it was not an arbitrary, spur of the moment decision for my own ego. This last section for newsletters was added because those zines on the final ballot were entered on the ballot in areas where they did not belong by the nominators. I merely took the ones that came up most often and placed them in a sperate and distinct category.

Don would also condemn me for not allowing the work of pros to be considered in the area of the fanzines. This is true also, but here I am thinking only of the fan who works hard to produce a fine effort and must then be placed in competition with Witzend. This is a quality zine and has much merit, but it cannot compete fairly in a field dominated by younger fans. Furthermore Witzend is not a fanzine, it is a prozine any way you look at it. For that reason it is inelgible. /I would like to offer a suggestion here that could solve the difficulty of honoring the miscellaneous publications that, for one reason or another, are ineligible in other categories: why can't Witzend be placed in competition with Creepy, Eerie, Mad, and Weird? All are of pro material and none have any code restrictions. I would suggest that a section be set up under a "Miscellaneous Magazines" title and would include those publications we are having difficulty placing elsewhere. As for Mad, Sick, etc and their competitors, I see no reason why they cannot be placed competitively with Creepy even though the latter is of an all-horror content because we also have Witzend which fluctuates between all subjects.-Ed./

The Alley Awards will still be limited to four in the pro section and two in the fan section. The various pro sections concerning the best-such and such-type of book will all receive certificates. The four best sections in the pro divisions will receive golden statues of Alley Oop. These are being made now by Andy Yanchus. They will be solid statues with a wire form inside to insure the stability and they will be made of a hard, durable plastic. If time and funds permit, we will try to make enough extras during the next year to give all the past winners never received a statue an award.

Don also asked to see a roll of the current members of the Academy. We have been printing them as we go along, but following is a complete up to date listing of all members.

Bruce Anderson	Larry Good	Dennis Richard
Jerry Bails	Henry Gross	Harry Ripley Jr.
Ron Barlow	Mark Hanerfeld	Kevin Robinette
Mike Barrier	Chris Harder	Mark Robinette
Jeremy Barry	Jon Ingersoll	Rich Rubenfeld
Leroy Blair	Doug Johnson	Jim Rummell
Martin Bovie	Glen Johnson	Buddy Saunders
H. J. Boyle	Kevin Johnson	Bob Schoenfeld
Dwayne Calvert	Dave Kaler	Bill Schwer
Robert Cosgrove	Ben Katchor	Rich Seward
Stan Darcy	Stan Landman	James Simmons
George Detrow	Terry Levin	L.L. Simpson
Ken Dickman	Gordon Linzner	Jerry Sorek
Shel Dorf	Gary Mason	Olaf Stokke
Pat Draine	Allan McCaughan	Dean Sweatman
Rick Durell	Dr. A. McClure	Allan Valgemae
Ray Elliot	John McGeehan	Irene Vartanoff
David Esser	Tom McGeehan	L.R. Waggoner
Andy Fraknoi	Jim McKelvey	Eliot Wagner
Mike Friedrich	Ken Mitchell	Wayne Warfield
Paul Gambaccini	Stan Pachow	Bruce Williams
Ed Gee	Yance Parrish	Rich Willis
Marg Gemignani	Jeff Pollack	Ron Wilson
Gary Goldstein	Phil Ressigiue	Marvin Wolfman

Among this listing you will find 11 members of the Executive Board who were listed earlier. Don Thompson last paid his dues in 1965 and has long since let his membership lapse.

Besides these persons above, the following people were given memberships because they joined in early '66 and received nothing for their membership.

R. M. Barritt	Doug LaFrenier	Mike Redding
Richard Burgess	W. G. Lee	Mike Redman
Steve Chapman	Ken Loriden	Alan Renfrow
Gabe Eisenstein	Lon Mitchell	Mike Rothman
Dick Feenberg	David Nelson	Van Taylor
Rudi Franke	John Pecala	Leon Vergetis
Noel Kerr	J. F. Pelzzynski	Rick Wald
		Chris Walker

With the addition of the above 72 members to the Rolls of The Academy, the total treasury now stands at $820.52.

Don seems also to have misunderstood my statement about the promised monthly newsletter. Somehow he has gotten the impression that it is to go to the board members alone...yet the newsletter I am speaking of is for the Supporting members, and he has not been a Supporting member since 1965. That was the last year that monies were entered in his name. /I would like to interject a bit of personal opinion here in regard to the mentioned "Board only" newsletter. This is something that Paul set up during his office, but, for reasons already clearly stated, it did not work. I feel that if the supporting membership wants a rapid (as possible) legislation on any project brought before the board, the board membership must be allowed to discuss the matter in their privacy. The only way to possibly do this is by a board-only bulletin. This is the way our US Government works basically--and can you imagine the arguments that would arise if every citizen had his say in the government discussions over bills? But don't get the impression that leaves supporting members out in the cold--after all, it is their organization. I propose that whoever is in charge of the official newsletter (OTDB) at that time (and perhaps it will still be me--but this is up to the board) be made a member of the board even if he is not elected to that post. He will then have a ring-side seat to the board-only discussion and will print the results regularly in OTDB. This would permit the supporting members to know what is going on. Then, if they feel they have an important



that supporting member could write to the publisher of OTDB and have his comments printed there. I feel that ExBd members should receive OTDB free and perhaps even by air mail in order that they might note the comments of the supporting members. Then, as in our electorial voting system, if they feel a fan has a valid argument, they should bring it up but are not obligated to do so. In the case of the fan with a project, by mentioning it in OTDB, Dave would then see that it is brought before the board for consideration. In this way, the fan with strong points in favor or against some project can be heard, and the fan suggesting the project will be heard. This also allows the board to work by itself causing less consternation and argument and making for much faster results. Another difficulty, however, will arise if the board is kept at its current number of members. I feel that 25 is the absolute maximum that should be allowed for the entire board.-Ed./

As for an election of Secretary and Board members, that will take place this year beginning with nominations by the Academy members in the month of August. From the nominations, the members will choose a smaller number of fans in a second election who will compose the Board.

As for Don's proposals of a monthly newsletter and discussion magazine, these are fine ideas and I commend him for thinking of them. However, we do have OTDB to serve as a discussion focal point for the supporting membership and I see no reason to dissolve a good thing. Furthermore, I ask, can something of this nature be produced cheaply and efficiently? Third class mails often sits in the post office waiting days to be delivered. /To print a small bulletin (it shouldn't need to be more than 12 pages) by mimeo or ditto would cost very little for printing (and even less if we are talking of a bulletin for the Board only because of the small print run) and would cost 5¢@ first class if the page count were 12 or less (like OTDB) from 13-24pgs the postage goes from 5 to 10¢@ and that is still not too much to worry over with a treasury of our size.-Ed/

But Don's final note takes the cake. He is willing to take over the Alley Ballot for next year and set it up so that it will be effective. But will it be fair to all facets of fandom and not just a reflection of his own intrests? He denounces the work that Tom Fagan, Rick Weingroff, myself and others put into this year's ballot. He does, however, say that he will take over the project if he is subsidized by the Academy. What subsidy am I getting for the time I spend on it, the postage I spend or the trouble I go through to send out copies to board members or fanzines? And what subsidy did Derrill Rothermich or Glen Johnson get last year? None!

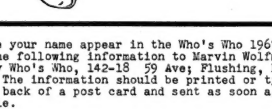
If Don wants to get off his righteous kick and begin producing something for the Academy, I suggest he send in his dues and get re-elected to the ExBd and then he can be elected Executive Secretary for '68-'69.

Don is a good man and a fan of high note. But he also has standards that I consider much too high in many cases, and this limits his objectivity. The wide variation of ages in comics fandom does not permit the standards of SFfandom to apply. If we must be second best (depending on your outlook), to quote the phrase, then we must try harder. I want to do my best in this capacity and I feel as though I have tried. But I can't really know until the other board members and supporting members have expressed their opinions on this controversy.

Therefore, I ask you--the above Bd members and supporting members--to send a letter or even a post card to Bob Schoenfeld stating who they might favor in this debate and why they do so. What I want is a vote of confidence in one or the other of our methods of handling the Academy--if nothing else, you might just print one of our names or the other on the back of a card. There are 94 members of the Academy and 39 members of the Board no longer members. That's 133 postal cards and it should prove once and for all what the intrests and desires of fandom are in this matter. It is you we must please--not Don and not me--but we must have some idea from which to begin. /I seem to have been placed in the center of this matter, and therefore intend to have my own opinions stated. There is no black and white to this discussion--no side is all right or all wrong. A compromise is the best way to settle the matter, but for the benefit of thoseof you who will respond as Dave has requested, I shall try to outline the variations in approach so that you will know for what you are voting: Don feels that the Who's Who should come out with particular notation to members of the Board; that there should be a Board-only newsletter; that a basic Alley Ballot should be set up to remain the same year in and year out; that the organization should be finalized in its name and that all matters of this nature should be by vote of the ExBd; that the forthcoming Comic Reader should be dropped and that in addition to a bd-only newsletter there should be a fan-newsletter for supporting members alone; that the free-discounts on fanzines should be done away with; and that he should be allowed to handle the Alley Awards for next year. As for the oposing postion for Dave--well, you have just read his rebuttal, so the matter is now fully in your hands. Perhaps you would care to go back and re-read each side.-Ed./

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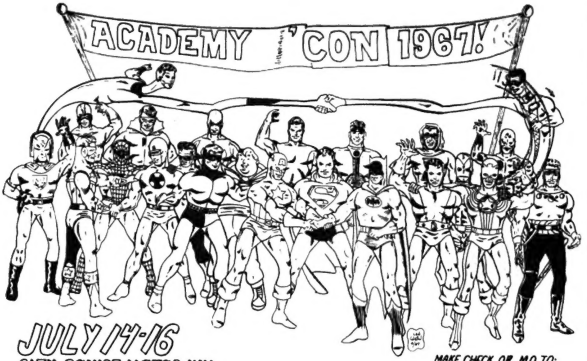
An ad for the Academy Con for this summer can be found elsewhere in this issue...we hope everyone will take advantage of the lowered price and attend. The rate is now $4 to nonmembers and $3 to members. The Alley Awards will be presented to the representatives of the winning companies and many pros will be on hand to take part in the programs. There will also be the usual buying, selling and costume party.



To have your name appear in the Who's Who 1967, send the following information to Marvin Wolfman, Academy Who's Who, 142-18 59 Ave; Flushing, NY, 11355. The information should be printed or typed on the back of a post card and sent as soon as possible.

1) State and zip code.
2) Name, age, marital status and occupation.
3) Mailing address for yourself.
4) Fan status: are you a fan, a collector, a fanzine editor or pro?
5) types of comics you collect and the years you collect them in.
6) Publishing companies you are primarily interested in or collect.
7) Other related items you collect or other fandoms you belong to.
8) Newspaper strips collected, if any.

Deadline for all cards is July 21, 1967.



Hotel rooms should be secured in advance of the con, and interested persons should write soon to one of the following hotels for rates and other info:

Hotel Taft
7th Ave & 50th St.
Ny, Ny.
Single: $10.50
Double: $15.00

Alvin Hotel
Broadway & 52nd St.
Ny, Ny.
Single: $6.30
Double: $7.35

First Class!

If Unforwardable, Return To:

Robert Schoenfeld
9516 Minerva Ave.
St. Louis, Mo 63114

On The Drawing Board

FANZINE INDEX

John McGeehan

Explanation---
In order of their appearance: title, latest issue, date received, number of pages (number of blank pages), address, printing process, price folded (flat), rating number. "as" is an ama strip..."ERB" is an Edgar Rice Burroughs fanzine.

Rating System---
(5) a zine worth any fan's money.
(4) for all but the most discriminating fans.
(3) an average zine for purchase after 4s & 5s.
(2) for fans with charitable or masochistic tendancies.
(1) for completists, friends, and parents.

Bat-Bulletin 9--May 19, 2pgs, Bill White, 1812 Jackson St; Columbia, Mo. 65201. Ditto, sae, a 5 to the strict Bat-fan, a 3 or 4 to others.

Comic Chamber 2--May 1, 24pgs, Charles Ford, 12837 Barranca Ln; Norwalk, Cal. 90650. Ditto, 20(10), a 3 if you would enjoy a 9 page article on Ironjaw...less to others. Good reproduction.

Comic Vendor, The 4--May 4, 52pgs, Alan Jadro, 40 Stevenson Ln; Upper Saddle River, NJ. 07458. Mimeo, 40(10),4.

Custer's Last Stand--one shot, 28(2)pgs, Ken Lizorty, 6117 Fee Fee Rd; Hazelwood, Mo. 63142. Litho, $1.(0), this high priced, pro-quality publication would be only of intrest to completists, Custer type history enthusiasts and fans who would enjoy the art. A fan who was most interested in the historical event would rate it high--whereas others should rate it according to how well they liked the art.

Dangling Conversation, The 2--May 7, 22pgs, Dave Esser, DCTC. The supply of this publication is still not high enough to fill any additional demands so no other info will be given. This is the official publication of the DC Trade Center and concerns itself with comment and discussion of project ideas.

Fandom Calling 2--May 2, 10pgs, Mike Raub, 128 W. Fairground St; Marion, Ohio, 43302. Ditto, 15(10), 2. Not much material this time due to the publisher taking ill. Next issue should be better---good repro.

HUH? 2--May 16, 40(4)pgs, Mark Lamberti & Larry Herndon, 1830 Highland Dr; Carrollton, Tex; 75006. Mimeo, 25(10). The issue consists of a 3pg letter col, a 10pg conclusion to a fiction story begun in #1, 3pgs of basic details on Doc Savage, a 5pg fiction tale by Herndon and various ads. If this would appeal to you--and if you can excuse the poor reproduction, give it a 3.

K-Alpha 31--May 18, 48pgs, Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd; Mentor, Ohio, 44060. Ditto/mimeo/litho,5. Membership required--send an sae for details.

Newfangles 2--May 25, 2pgs, Don & Maggie Thompson, 8786 Hendricks Rd; Mentor, Ohio, 44060. Mimeo, 3issues for 25¢, 5. Nfangles is a news-zine, but unlike OTDB, it concentrates on the fannish side of the happenings. The people--births, deaths, etc. A brief, little thing that reflects the personalities of its editors.

OTDB Vol 2, Num 13, May 25, 12pgs.

Sense of Wonder 1--May 18, 38pgs, Bill Schelly, 881 Lovingston Dr; Pittsburgh, Pa; 15216. Ditto, 35(10), 3. Mostly ama fiction and strips.

Spa-Fon 2--May 22, 30pgs, Rich Hauser, 4519 N. Richmond St; Chicago, Ill; 60625. Litho, 75(0). SF is an EC-zine. It contains indexes, horribly brief articles and token letters and comes on like a breath of hot air to anyone seriously interested in EC. It is over-priced for its size, and the articles, such as they are, do little more than reflect the writers lingual virtuosity as he tosses laurels upon the artists he admires. While not nearly as bad as the recent Rocket's Blast Special #7 (see Ego Crusher this month), it still has a way to go.

Rocket's Blast, The 51--May 4, 48pgs, Gordon Love, 9875 SW 212 St; Miami, Fla; 33157. Litho, 60(10), 5. Ads.

Witzend 2--May 4, Wally Wood, Box 882, Ansonia Station, NY, NY. 10023, Litho, $1., 5. Pro strips...